



Michigan EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT NEWS

Volume 03 Issue 1

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Comments from Capt. John Ort, Deputy State Director of Emergency Management

The recent change to "High" (Orange) in the Homeland Security Threat Advisory System has prompted a greater focus on the role of emergency managers to address needs that ensure adequate levels of preparedness. As we continue to work together to strengthen our capabilities to detect, prepare for, prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from any terrorist threat or attack, it's more important than ever that our planning efforts be coordinated and communicated with all of our public health and safety partners. It is with this spirit of cooperation and collaboration all of us in Emergency Management will be better prepared to meet the challenges of any and "all hazards" we might face.

2003 Michigan Homeland Security Training Conference

The "2003 Michigan Homeland Security Training Conference" will be held April 30-May 2, 2003, at the Treetops Resort, located in Gaylord, MI, and is hosted by the Hazardous Materials Training Center of the Michigan State Police Emergency Management Division.

This year's conference will provide critical information about measures being taken to protect Michigan's homeland. Topics will address sensitive issues directly involving emergency planners and managers, first responders, law enforcement, private industry, utilities and health care providers. Speakers will be on hand through a combination of general session and workshop tracks entitled "Critical Infrastructure Protection,"

"Indications and Warnings," "Medical," and "Response."

Visit the Michigan State Police website at www.michigan.gov or call 517-322-6515 for complete conference information and registration application.

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FY2003 Homeland Security Funding and the 2003 Statewide Needs Assessments and Homeland Security Strategy Development Process

Fiscal Year 2003 Homeland Security Funding

The United States spends roughly \$100 billion per year on homeland security, including programs funded at the federal, state and local levels of government - as well as within the private sector. Despite these extraordinarily large expenditures, it is recognized that much work remains to be done throughout the nation to improve response readiness. Before fiscal year 2000, the federal government distributed anti-terrorism funding directly to America's largest 157 cities. In 2000, states were requested to participate in the distribution of homeland security resources by coordinating local "Needs Assessments" and by preparing a *Statewide Three-year Domestic Preparedness Strategy*. The impetus behind this new approach was the recognition that the previously used population-based resourcing methodology did not appropriately consider the areas of *risk* and *need*. In this regard, it was conceivable that a large jurisdiction with a robust response capability and a relatively low risk for terrorist attack could receive federal resources while a smaller jurisdiction with a higher risk and considerable shortfalls in response readiness would not. Recognizing the need to take these factors into account, the federal government made the determination that each state would be required to prepare a Statewide Domestic Preparedness Strategy to substantiate local needs.

During August – October 2000 the MSP Emergency Management Division conducted eight "Needs Assessment District Training Forums" to train Local Planning Teams (LPT) from each jurisdiction having an emergency management program. LPTs were comprised of seven individuals, one representing each of the designated emergency response disciplines (i.e., fire fighting, hazardous materials teams, emergency management, law enforcement, emergency medical services, public health, and public works). The training prepared LPTs to complete Needs Assessments that were specifically focused on identifying shortfalls in the areas of WMD anti-terrorism planning, training, equipment, exercises, and technical assistance. The Needs Assessments were completed in April 2001 and the Statewide Strategy was finalized and approved by the Office for Domestic Preparedness in October 2001.

It is important to note that a key Congressional mandate associated with this funding involved each state ensuring that all participating jurisdictions received adequate assistance for achieving a "Basic Defensive Capability" for responding to WMD terrorist incidents. Accordingly, the Emergency Management Division used the following criteria to prioritize jurisdictions for receipt of the FY's 2000-2002 federal funding:

- *Achieving a Basic Defensive Capability.*
- *Risk* (Expressed in terms of Potential Threat Elements (PTE) and the number of BNICE Sites (i.e., Biological, Nuclear, Incendiary, Chemical, Explosive) in the Jurisdiction.
- *Population.*

Congress recently passed the FY2003 federal budget and the Office for Domestic Preparedness, Department of Justice has been allocated approximately \$566,295,000 to support state and local equipment programs. In this regard, Michigan has been allocated \$11,170,000 in fiscal year 2003 funding for the purchase of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) response equipment (with an 80% pass-through to local jurisdictions). Additionally, the State's allocations for the three remaining program areas are: exercises - \$2,793,000, training - \$838,000, and planning - \$1,117,000 for an overall total of \$15,918,000.

The Emergency Management Division is preparing a grant application to obtain these funds in April 2003 and the grant performance period will run two years from the date of award. Distribution of 2003 funding will generally be in accordance with the formula identified in the existing *Statewide Three-year Domestic Preparedness Strategy*, although consideration will be given to the resources previously distributed for the purposes of attaining a Basic Defensive Capability.

2003 Statewide Needs Assessments & Homeland Security Strategy Development

The President's 2004 Budget includes \$3.5 billion for state and local Homeland Security programs. To ensure that 2004 funds are appropriately distributed to the states, the Department of Homeland Security again will require the completion of local Needs Assessments. Also, each state will be required to prepare a new Statewide Homeland Security Strategy based upon the results of those assessments. The continued terrorist threat and the associated urgency to improve response readiness throughout the country has led Congress to set a very aggressive target date of December 31, 2003, for the Statewide Strategies to be completed and submitted to the Department of Homeland Security. This due date will require an expedited effort at both the local and State levels to ensure the mandated products are completed on time.

The following is a general outline of significant components/tasks associated with this effort and target timeframes for completion.

Completion of Threat & Risk Assessment Training* (as required)	April/May
Training for State Needs Assessment Trainers	June/July
Needs Assessment On-Line Tool Kit Becomes Available	July 1
Conduct 8 District Training Forums for LPTs	July/August
LPT Complete Needs Assessments	August – October
Complete Statewide Strategy	November – December
Submit Final Statewide Homeland Security Strategy	December 31, 2003

**T&RA training is available on a district-wide basis from the National Emergency Response and Recovery Training Center, Texas A & M University. District Coordinators are working to schedule training dates.*

When the Needs Assessment program was conducted in 2000, LPTs were comprised of seven emergency response discipline representatives, as cited above. However, three additional disciplines/areas have been added for this iteration of the assessments. These include: "government administrative," "healthcare," and "emergency communications." Therefore, participating jurisdictions should have one representative from each of the (now) ten disciplines on the LPT and the team should attend the District Training Forums which will be scheduled for the July – August timeframe.

The Needs Assessments and Statewide Homeland Security Strategy development process will be completed in accordance with the following phases:

- **Phase I: Awareness Phase.** (Present through July 2003). It is important that mayors, city managers, county commissioners, and other elected officials at the local jurisdictional level are appraised of the purpose of this initiative and it's potential for improving emergency response capabilities within their jurisdictions. By creating this awareness, you will be more likely to gain participation and full support from representatives from each emergency response discipline within your jurisdiction. It is envisioned that this phase be completed in two forums. First, presentations will be provided to the Advisory Council of the Michigan Homeland Security Task Force. The Advisory Council includes representatives of the Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Sheriff's Association, Michigan Fire Service, Michigan College of Emergency Physicians, Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Michigan Chief's of Police, American Society for Industrial Security, and the Michigan Association of Counties. These representatives will be armed with the information needed to inform members of their associations with the purpose and the methodology associated with this task. Further, your attendance at local forums to address the overall program and to explain the benefits of your jurisdiction's full participation in the assessment process will greatly assist in gaining needed support from each emergency response discipline.
- **Phase II: Needs Assessment Training Phase.** (April – August 2003). Providing training to all participants is the key to success and minimizing workload at both the State and local levels. Target audiences who will require such training include members of the State Needs Assessment Training Teams and Local Planning Teams. Once the state planning staff has been trained on the Needs Assessment process (June – July 2003), a District Training Forum will be conducted within each of the eight emergency management districts to train members of LPTs. The Emergency Management District Coordinators will schedule these training events with local emergency managers within their districts.
- **Phase III: Execution Phase.** (August – October 2003). Upon successful completion of Phase II, the Execution Phase will be initiated. Local jurisdictions will enter this phase when the emergency manager creates, assembles, and conducts the initial kick-off meeting of the LPT. The target date for you to initiate this phase is on or before September 1, 2003. Specific functions of the LPTs are directly related to the requirements set forth in the Needs Assessment Tool Kit, which will be provided during the District Training Forums, and in accordance with the On-Line Needs Assessment submission system which will be activated by the Office for Domestic Preparedness by July 1, 2003. Further, the following guidance is provided regarding this phase:
 - Single Points of Contact (POC). During Phase III the role of the State Administrative Agency (i.e., Director, Michigan State Police), other state departments/agencies, and the district coordinators (DC) will be one of support and assistance. In this regard, your DC will serve as the SAA's single POC for your jurisdiction. This arrangement will minimize conflicting guidance between the various agencies involved.

- **Guidance to Local Emergency Managers.** The most critical aspect of the Execution Phase, which holds significant ramifications for the State's Three-year Homeland Security Strategy, is the success of the LPT's proper completion of the various elements of the Needs Assessment. Availability of guidance and expertise must be consistent throughout the Needs Assessment process. Should you have any questions, or require specific information or interpretation of State/ODP guidance, your DC will forward your request to the SAA Needs Assessment Project Manager (PM). The project manager will coordinate with appropriate state and/or federal agencies to gain the needed information. Once the answer is obtained, it will be disseminated to all DC's and appropriate state agencies to ensure consistency of statewide procedures.
- **Review Process.** Once you notify your DC that the Needs Assessment has been successfully completed, he/she will review the completed assessment and certify the product. Only after this review and certification process is completed will the Needs Assessment information be forwarded to the Planning and Operations staff, EMD and ODP. (With respect to the Agri-terrorism assessment information, the DC will coordinate with the MDA Agri-terrorism POC for guidance/assistance, as necessary, prior to certifying and submitting the assessment.)
- **Electronic Submissions.** ODP has created the software and procedures for completing and submitting Needs Assessment information electronically (electronic submission is required). Should you not have access to needed automation equipment or to the Internet – contact your DC for assistance.
- **Phase IV: Preparation of the "State Homeland Security Strategy."** The culmination of all Needs Assessment efforts is to produce the State Homeland Security Strategy. It's purpose is to cite overall shortfalls in the program areas of equipment, training and exercises; to highlight technical assistance requirements; to cite the need for research and development; to establish goals and objectives; and to provide the federal government with recommendations on Homeland Security program improvements. Further, it provides a mechanism for periodic updates regarding progress toward achieving the desired state of readiness in Michigan.

As previously stated, federal funding will not be made available to states until their Homeland Security Strategy is submitted and approved by ODP. Each state strategy must be based upon the results of local Needs Assessments. Therefore, only jurisdictions that satisfactorily complete the assessments to identify shortfalls will be eligible to receive a portion of the available federal funds. Furthermore, emergency management programs at the municipal and township level may elect not to perform separate Needs Assessments for their jurisdictions. In such cases, the county in which such jurisdictions reside should incorporate their data into the overall county submission.

Department of Homeland Security Announces Funding for First Responders

Department of Homeland Security announces funding for first responders to better assist state and local public safety and law enforcement personnel to help them prevent, prepare and respond to terrorism.

Congress recently passed the fiscal year 2003 federal budget and the Office for Domestic Preparedness, Department of Justice has been allocated approximately \$566,295,000 to support state and local equipment programs. In this regard, Michigan has been allocated \$11,170,000 in fiscal year 2003 funding to for the purchase of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) response equipment (with an 80% pass-through to local jurisdictions.) Additionally, the State's allocations for the three remaining program areas are: exercises - \$2,793,000, training - \$838,000, and planning - \$1,117,000 for an overall total of \$15,918,000.

The Emergency Management Division is preparing a grant application to obtain these funds in April 2003 and the grant performance period will run two years from the date of award. Distribution of 2003 funding will generally be in accordance with the formula identified in the existing Statewide Three-year Domestic Preparedness Strategy, although consideration will be given to the resources previously distributed for the purposes of attaining a Basic Defensive Capability.

"This money is an important step in getting the states and localities better prepared to deal with potential terrorist incidents. This investment will create new capabilities to protect us against terrorism and it will integrate traditional security functions in a new and better way. Together with the help of our brave men and women in uniform, we will continue the hard work to defend and protect our nation from harm," said Secretary of Homeland Security, Tom Ridge.

As of March 1, the Office for Domestic Preparedness transferred from the Department of Justice in to the Department of Homeland Security. Assistance to state and local jurisdictions in the form of risk and needs assessments, equipment grants, training, exercise support and technical assistance will be the program's top priorities.

Since 1998, the Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) has been engaged with the states and U.S. territories in the ongoing effort to better handle terrorist incidents. Assistance available from ODP to the states has increased from \$12 million in 1998 to nearly \$600 million in the current fiscal year.

Federal Agencies Cooperate To Provide Radiation Detection Equipment and Training to Emergency Responders

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Departments of Justice and Energy have joined in a cooperative effort, called the Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program, to provide surplus radiological detection instrumentation and other equipment to state and local emergency first responder agencies nationwide to enhance their domestic preparedness capabilities. The agreement is part of the larger federal effort to enhance the equipment and training available to our nation's emergency first responders.

"The Department of Energy (DOE) is proud to help ensure that our law enforcement and emergency personnel have the necessary equipment and training to prepare them to respond effectively and thoroughly to any emergency. We are pleased to again provide DOE resources to help ensure America's homeland defense," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said.

Attorney General John Ashcroft said, "The HDER Program is an excellent example of federal agencies and private organizations working together to address a critical domestic preparedness issue. This program demonstrates the administration's commitment to equipping those on the domestic front lines – our state and local emergency first responders – in the nation's effort to prevent future terrorist attacks."

A variety of equipment to measure the presence of radiation will be made available through the HDER Program. The equipment, which comes from Energy Department sites across the nation, will be evaluated and refurbished by radiation equipment specialists at DOE's Office of Assets Utilization, National Center of Excellence for Materials Recycle in Oak Ridge, TN. The Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) will then work with established contacts in each state to identify appropriate users in their local emergency responder communities, and DOE will deliver the equipment to these jurisdictions at no cost.

Training on the use of the equipment will be available to the emergency responders through ODP's Domestic Preparedness Equipment Technical Assistance Program (DPETAP). If requested, DPETAP will provide detailed technical information and hands-on equipment operation and maintenance training. Local support for the equipment, including calibration, maintenance and follow-up refresher training, will also be available through a partnership with the Health Physics Society, a 6,000 member national organization of radiation safety professionals.

A pilot phase for the HDER Program began on July 1, 2002, and coordinated with the states containing the nation's 10 largest metropolitan areas, which include: Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Washington D.C. Following the success of the pilot

phase the Department of Homeland Security will introduce the program nationwide in April of 2003 and will be open to application for all jurisdictions.

Additional information on the HDER program can be obtained at the DOE's website at www.oakridge.doe.gov or the DOJ's website <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/>.

Questions regarding the HDER program can be directed to Michael Curtis at 517-333-5039.

New Section Managers

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Upcoming Events

2003 Michigan Homeland Security Training Conference April 30 – May 2, 2003

Treetops Resort, Gaylord, MI

For more information visit the Michigan State Police website at www.michigan.gov or call 517-322-6515 for complete conference information and registration application.

Michigan Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Commission (SERC)

May 6, 2002

Emergency Management Division

1:30 p.m.

Questions may be directed to Dana Wolverton, MSP/EMD at 517-333-5032 or E-mail: wolvertd@michigan.gov

Michigan Hazard Mitigation Coordinating Council

May 21, 2003

Emergency Management Division

1:30 p.m.

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Visit the EMD website @ www.MspEMD.org

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